

### **REMARKS**

In the December 15, 2003 Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 6-14 and 17-40 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) and indicated that dependent claims 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

In response, Applicant has amended independent claim 2 and 18 to include subject matter indicated allowable and canceled claims 1, 8, 11-15, 17, 22, 25-29 and 31-40. This leaves claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 16, 18-21, 23, 24 and 30 pending, with claims 2 and 18 being independent.

Reconsideration and allowance of the above-identified application are respectfully requested.

#### **Independent Claim 2**

Independent claim 2 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claims 14 and 15. Since the Examiner indicated that dependent claim 15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the subject matter of all intervening claims, Applicant submits independent claim 2 and its dependent claims 3, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 16 are allowable.

#### **Independent claim 18**

Independent claim 18 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claims 28 and 29. Applicant submits that previously, amended independent claim 18 recited subject matter similar to independent claim 2, and dependent claim 29 recites the same subject matter as dependent claim 15. Specifically, dependent claims 15 and 29 recite heating the

reshaping device using a liquid with a predetermined temperature and administering the liquid through an irrigation port into the reshaping device.

Therefore, Applicant submits that dependent claim 29 should be allowable for the same reasons as dependent claim 15.

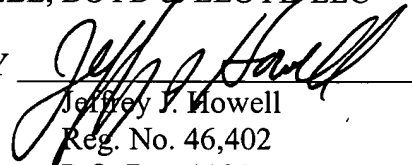
Since independent claim 18 has been amended to include the subject matter of dependent claim 29, and any intervening claim, Applicant submits that independent claim 18 and its dependent claims 19-21, 23, 24 and 30 should be allowable.

Prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC

BY



Jeffrey J. Howell

Reg. No. 46,402

P.O. Box 1135

Chicago, Illinois 60690-1135

Phone: (202) 955-6832

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